

Message Text

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P R 231045 Z MAR 73
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SECSTATE WASHDC 6927
USIA VOA MIAMI
USCINCSO

UNCLAS BRASILIA 1623

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CINCSO FOR POLAD

ATTN: IOR/ M, IPS, IBS, RIM, ILA

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR EFIN BR ECLA XM OPEC

SUBJECT: DAILY MEDIA REACTION REPORT -- PART THREE

1. PROMINENT, EXTENSIVE MEDIA COVERAGE GIVEN BRAZILIAN MINISTER OF PLANNING' S STATEMENTS MARCH 21 IN BRASILIA ANALYZING THE COUNTRY' S FOREIGN INVESTMENT POLICY, ESPECIALLY IN REGARD TO MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES. SAMPLE COVERAGE: INFLUENTIAL O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO FRONT- PAGE REPORT ENTITLED " MULTINATIONALS -- ONLY ADJUSTMENTS" SAYS: " PLANNING MINISTER REIS VELLOSO AFFIRMED YESTERDAY, ON TWO DIFFERENT OCCASIONS, THAT THE GOB WILL NOT CHANGE ITS CURRENT INVESTMENT POLICY AND THAT RATHER THAN IMPOSING RESTRICTIVE LEGISLATION, THE COUNTRY WILL CONTINUE TO SEEK ADJUSTMENT OF FOREIGN INVESTMENTS' INTERESTS WITH THOSE OF BRAZIL. REFERRING TO MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES, THE MINISTER ADMITTED THAT IT IS NOT EASY TO HARMONIZE THESE COMPANIES' INTERESTS WITH THOSE OF BRAZIL, BUT RECALLED THAT THE GOB HAS THE NECESSARY MEANS TO STIMULATE OR DISCOURAGE (OUTSIDE ENTERPRISES) WITHOUT HAVING TO BREAK THE RULES OF THE GAME OR DISCRIMINATE AGAINST THE FOREIGN BUSINESS FIRMS. ..." (MARCH 22).

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2. NATIONALISTIC DIARIO POPULAR (SAO PAULO) EDITORIAL COMMENTS ON U. S. SENATE INVESTIGATION OF MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES, SAYING THAT THE INVOLVEMENT OF ITT IN CHILEAN INTERNAL AFFAIRS, AS REVEALED BEFORE

THE SENATE'S FOREIGN RELATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE, SHOULD BE REGARDED AS A

"LESSON FOR US (BRAZILIAN), WHO LIVE IN A DEVELOPING COUNTRY WHERE MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES ARE PREPARING TO OPERATE INTENSIVELY. ... WE MUST CONSIDER THE GROWING DANGER TO WHICH WE WILL BE EXPOSED, AS OUR COUNTRY BECOMES ONE OF THE FAVORITE AREAS FOR THE ACTIVITIES OF COMPANIES THAT PLACE MONEY ABOVE ANY OTHER CONSIDERATION, EVEN A MOST SACRED ONE, SUCH AS A PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO DECIDE ITS DESTINY FREELY.

OUR COUNTRY TOMORROW MAY BE TARGET FOR THIS TYPE (ITT'S) OF MANEUVERS, IF OUR GOVERNMENT ADOPTS AN ORIENTATION CONTRARY TO THE SPURIOUS INTERESTS OF SUCH MONSTERS." PAPER RECALLS THAT BRAZIL "ALREADY HAS SOME EXPERIENCE, ALTHOUGH NOT AS DRASTIC AS THAT OF CHILE, IN THE FIGHT AGAINST INTERNATIONAL OR MULTINATIONAL GROUPS. A WIDE VARIETY OF WEAPONS WERE USED TO TRY TO WEAKEN THE RESISTANCE OF THE GOB ON THE ISSUES OF COFFEE, TEXTILES, AND SHOES. ..." (MARCH 22).

3. MODERATE PRESS PLAY GIVEN OPENING OF ECLA MEETING TOMORROW IN QUITO. O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN ECUADOR, ALBERTO

TAMER, WRITES: "... ALTHOUGH THIS HIGH-LEVEL MEETING OF LATAM NATIONS... IS NOT EXPECTED TO MAKE IMPORTANT DECISIONS, CONFRONTATIONS WHICH MIGHT ARISE COULD GIVE A VERY REAL AND UP-TO-DATE VIEW OF THE PRINCIPAL PROBLEMS CURRENTLY AFFECTING THIS PART OF THE UNDERDEVELOPED WORLD. ..." (MARCH 22).

4. MODERATE PRESS PLAY GIVEN OPEC MEETING REOPENING IN BEIRUT. SAMPLE COVERAGE: CONSERVATIVE O JORNAL (RIO) FRONT-PAGE REPORT HEADLINE "PETROLEUM: PRODUCERS THREATEN AGAIN" SAYS: "THE WORLD SEEMS TO BE ORIENTED TOWARD A NEW SHOW OF FORCE, THE STARTING POINT FOR THIS DEMONSTRATION BEING THE OPEC MEETING. ... ACCORDING TO LE MONDE, IT WOULD NOT BE A SURPRISE IF PRODUCING-NATIONS EVEN DECIDED TO ABANDON DEFINITELY THE POLICY OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH CONSUMERS -- SIMPLY DETERMINING NEW PRICES UNILATERALLY FOR THE PRODUCT. THE PRODUCERS' PROBLEM IS IN FINDING A WAY TO UNITE. ..." (MARCH 22).

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